THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) (a) and (b) During the year 2007-08 State Trading Corporation (STC) has been asked to place orders for import of 5.11 lakh MTs of wheat at a weighted average price of US $ 325.59 PMT C&F (FO) on Government account. The tender was finalized on the basis of competitive bids received against global tender. The bid prices quoted depend upon demand and supply position of the commodity, origin of wheat, arrival period, discharge ports, freight and other commercial considerations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Revival of sugar mills

630. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sugar mills functioning at present in the different parts of the country indicating the profit/loss of each mills;

(b) the number of sugar mills closed down in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for closure of the said mills;

(d) whether any action plan has been formulated by Government for revival of the closed mills in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Statement-I showing State-wise number of sugar mills worked during the current sugar season 2006-07 is enclosed (*See* below). Department of Food and Public Distribution does not maintain data on profit/loss of sugar mills.

(b) and (c) Statement-II showing number of sugar mills which did not work during the last three years enclosed (*See* below). The reasons for these sugar mills not working during the last three sugar seasons are inadequate cane availability, uneconomical size, out-dated plant and machinery, technical/managerial incompetence, etc.

(d) and (e) It is the responsibility of the concerned entrepreneurs to take steps to reopen/revive the closed sugar mills. The sick sugar mills belonging to private and public sector are covered under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA). Such sugar mills are required to make a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), whenever their accumulated losses become equal to or more than the net-worth. If the rehabilitation schemes sanctioned by BIFR provide for any relief/concession from this Ministry, the scheme is considered as per the existing guidelines. As regards the

cooperative sugar mills, a Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Pubic Distribution (Department of Food and Pubic Distribution) which considers the proposals of the potentially viable sick sugar mills of this sector. No such proposal has been received by the Committee during the last three seasons.

Statement-I

State-wise No. of sugar mills which worked during the current sugar season 2006-07 (provisional)

Sl. No.	State	Total
1.	Punjab	16
2.	Haryana	14
3.	Rajasthan	1
4.	Uttaranchal	10
5.	Uttar Pradesh	131
6.	Madhya Pradesh	6
7.	Chhattisgarh	1
8.	Gujarat	18
9.	Maharashtra	165
10.	Bihar	9
11.	Assam	0
12.	Orissa	5
13.	West Bengal	1
14.	Nagaland	0
15.	Andhra Pradesh	38
16.	Karnataka	45
17.	Tamil Nadu	36
18.	Pondicherry	2
19.	Kerala	0
20.	Goa	1
	ALL INDIA:	499

Statement-II

State-wise number of sugar mills which did not work during the sugar seasons 2003-04 to 2005-06

Sl. No.	State	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Punjab	1	3	4
2.	Haryana	—	2	1
3.	Rajasthan	2	2	2
4.	Uttar Pradesh	19	16	16
5.	Madhya Pradesh	5	5	5
6.	Gujarat	7	5	6
7.	Maharashtra	49	89	47
8.	Bihar	18	19	19
9.	Assam	3	3	3
10.	Orissa	4	2	3
11.	West Bengal	1	1	1
12.	Nagaland	1	1	1
13.	Andhra Pradesh	14	8	5
14.	Karnataka	13	12	12
15.	Tamil Nadu	4	4	3
16.	Pondicherry	1	1	1
17.	Kerala	2	2	2
	ALL INDIA:	144	175	131

Offtake from PDS dealers

631. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the offtake from PDS dealers is reducing month by month;

(b) if so, whether Government had done any study about the reasons for that;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal with Government to this effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. A statement showing the offtake of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) under Targeted Public